

In 1967, he was elected mayor of Cleveland—the first African-American ever to be elected mayor of a major U.S. city.

He served two terms as mayor, and in his second term, he became the first African-American to serve as an officer of the National League of Cities.

Carl Stokes later became a television news anchor in New York City, and a municipal judge in Cleveland. In 1994, President Clinton named him United States Ambassador to the Seychelles.

The Honorable Carl Stokes had a long and distinguished career before his untimely passing in April of last year. In his eulogy for Mayor Stokes, the Reverend Jesse Jackson called him "a dream maker and an odds buster."

That's exactly right. Carl Stokes was a man who made a difference. The people of Ohio will always remember him as a man of great courage and personal character.

For this reason, I am introducing legislation today to name the new Federal courthouse in Cleveland after this truly honorable man.

NOMINATION OF JOHN F. MAISTO, TO BE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I offer my support to the President's nomination of the Honorable John F. Maisto to serve as United States Ambassador to the Republic of Venezuela. Mr. President, it has been my pleasure to know Ambassador Maisto and I have known him as the United States Ambassador to Nicaragua. He has served with great distinction as our United States Ambassador to Nicaragua for the last 4 years, helping that country make its very historic transition to full democracy.

In fact, Mr. President, I had occasion to be in Nicaragua this past November, and it just happened to be the week that the Ambassador and his wife were leaving after 4 years. I had the opportunity to talk to Nicaraguans clear across the political spectrum. I had the opportunity to talk to Nicaraguans with all kinds of background, Nicaraguans who had many different political beliefs. But I found that it was unanimous that our Ambassador had done a fantastic job—a fantastic job of representing our country in a time in Nicaragua's history that was crucial for not only democracy to continue to develop in Nicaragua, but also crucial for our continuing relationship with this country, which we have had such a long relationship with in the past.

It was very clear to me, after talking to the many Nicaraguans that I saw, that our Ambassador was very well respected and that he had represented us exceedingly well.

Mr. President, before his posting to Managua, Ambassador Maisto had served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs. He also served as Deputy U.S. Representa-

tive to the Organization of American States, and Deputy Chief of Mission in the United States Embassy in Panama.

Mr. President, this is a man whose hands-on experience with Latin America will serve us very well. It has served us in the past and will continue to serve us. Mr. President, the Ambassador will be an outstanding Ambassador to Venezuela, and I urge that his nomination be confirmed.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, February 6, the Federal debt stood at \$5,302,957,481,388.92.

One year ago, February 6, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$4,987,289,000,000.

Five years ago, February 6, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,801,444,000,000.

Ten years ago, February 6, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,232,746,000,000 which reflects a debt increase of more than \$3 trillion (\$3,074,337,787,977.17) during the past 10 years.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1008. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1009. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the interim report on the High Plain States Groundwater Demonstration Program for October 1996; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1010. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, Presidential Determination 96-54; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1011. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report entitled "Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1012. A communication from the National Director, Tax Forms and Publications Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of Revenue Procedure 97-11; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1013. A communication from the Lieutenant General, USA Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on status of loans and guarantees under the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1014. A communication from the Lieutenant General, USA Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on foreign military sales under the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1015. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exceptions to the Educational Requirements for Naturalization for Certain Applicants," received on February 3, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1016. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Priority Dates for Employment-Based Petitions," (RIN1115-AE24) received on February 3, 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1017. A communication from the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Freedom of Information Act for calendar year 1996; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1018. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1019. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to projects with industry, (RIN1820-AB13) received on January 31, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-1020. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule relative to disability and rehabilitation research projects, (RIN1820-AB38) received on February 3, 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 291. A bill to provide for the management of the airspace over units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated: